

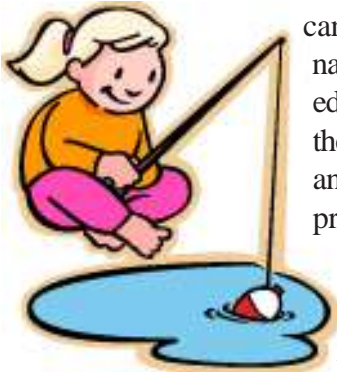
## **T**he program

*Fish Iowa!* is a teaching module designed for use in physical education and outdoor education settings with middle school through senior high students. Written in accordance with the Iowa Department of Education guidelines for physical education curriculum, it was piloted by more than thirty educators before being distributed state-wide through workshops and seminars.

*Fish Iowa!* incorporates physical education, biology, geography, family and consumer sciences, and health into a comprehensive program that focuses on fishing.

Angling is a lifetime recreational activity in which almost all individuals may participate regardless of physical or mental disabilities, economic status, or age. *Fish Iowa!*

can be used in drug alternative programs, physical education curriculum for the physically challenged, and “talented and gifted” programs. It is a comprehensive program that helps students develop motor skills, teaches a lifetime recreational pursuit, and promotes mental health.



## **T**he network

Educators receive the instructor’s manual and supplemental handouts free of charge through workshops, seminars, or individual mentor sessions. Additional handouts for students are provided upon request .

Over 2,500 educators, youth leaders, naturalists, and others have been trained with representatives from more than half of Iowa’s school districts.

**For more information about scheduling an individual or group training session, contact:**

Aquatic Education Program  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
2473 160th Road  
Guthrie Center, IA 50115  
Phone/fax: 641/747-2200  
AquaticEd\_Info@dnr.iowa.gov

## **S**ponsors/Funding

*Fish Iowa!* is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Education Program. Seventy-five percent of the monies for Aquatic Education is provided by a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration Fund, which is maintained by a 10 percent excise tax on fishing tackle and related items and taxes on boat motor fuel. State matching funds are paid with fishing license dollars.



**A comprehensive module  
to teach fishing**



Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Updated 2007

## **T**he manual

*Fish Iowa!* is a basic spincasting module that can be used to instruct beginners of all ages. The module includes five units:

- 1) Introduction to Fishing
- 2) Fish Senses and Characteristics
- 3) Basic Spincasting Equipment and Techniques
- 4) Baits and Lures
- 5) Landing and Caring for the Catch

Each unit is in a lesson plan format. Units may be taught alone or in conjunction with others. So, educators can tailor the program to meet their needs.

## **T**he teaching aids

*Fish Iowa!* is supplemented by videos, CDs, and DVDs produced for use with the teaching module, posters, informational brochures, and student handouts. Over 3,300 free-loan rods and reels are available at some 100 locations around Iowa.



## **E**xtensions

### **Fly-fishing Module**

*An Introduction to Fly-fishing* is an add-on unit for the *Fish Iowa!* manual distributed upon request. It is designed to introduce the angler to the basics of fly-fishing. Basic equipment, assembly, and casting techniques are presented.

### **Ice Fishing Module**

*An Introduction to Ice Fishing* is an add-on unit for the *Fish Iowa!* manual distributed upon request. It is designed to introduce the angler to the winter sport of ice fishing. Preparation, ice safety, equipment, and angling strategies for an ice fishing trip to a frozen pond or lake are discussed.



## **Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs®**

*Hooked on Fishing – Not on Drugs®* (HOFNOD) is an innovative aquatic education/drug prevention program sponsored by the Future Fisherman Foundation®. This national, award-winning program utilizes fishing as a positive alternative to drug use and other “at risk” behaviors.

Through fishing, students focus on building self-esteem, life skills, civic values, better relationships with family and community, and stewardship of aquatic resources. Students become caretakers of the environment.

*Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs®* is offered through training sessions with the *Fish Iowa!* program.

### **4-H Fish Iowa**

*4-H Fish Iowa* use the *Fish Iowa!* materials in 4-H programs. It is designed to develop life skills in young people and adults while encouraging them to fish responsibly and become stewards of aquatic resources.

*4-H Fish Iowa* seeks to involve youth in a long-term, on-going, community-based sportfishing and aquatic resources education program.

Training workshops are coordinated through Iowa State University Extension as part of the *Fish Iowa!* program. Workshops are open to all adults interested in helping young people learn the art of fishing.